equivalent of the percentage of target DNA content in the sample DNA.

3. (Twice Amended) A nucleic acid assay process according to claim ~~1~~ 13, wherein the target DNA which is the same as said labeled standard DNA and which is present in said sample DNA is quantitated by [utilizing theoretical values of] evaluating the degree of exchange of the complementary strands between said sample DNA and said labeled standard DNA at the selected excessiveness of said sample DNA, wherein said exchange occurs at a higher frequency when the target DNA is the same as the labeled standard DNA, and said label intensity is reduced.

Please add the following new claims:

--11. A nucleic acid assay process comprising the steps of:

amplifying a particular region of an analyte nucleic acid in a specimen to prepare a double stranded sample DNA;

adding an excessive amount of said sample DNA to a labeled standard DNA comprising a double stranded nucleic acid having a site capable of binding to a solid support on one strand and a detectable label on the other strand to allow competitive hydrization to take place; and

detecting the rehybridized labeled standard DNA by utilizing said detectable label and said site capable of binding to a solid support to thereby evaluate the degree of exchange of the complementary strands between said sample DNA and said labeled standard DNA for detecting the target DNA which is the same as said labeled standard DNA and which is present in said sample DNA;

wherein a detection limit for the target DNA which is the same as said labeled standard DNA and which is present in said sample DNA is preliminary selected, and excessiveness of said sample DNA added to said labeled standard DNA in the competitive hybridization is selected in accordance with the thus selected detection limit, and

wherein when the detection limit for the target DNA which is the same as said labeled standard DNA and which is present in said sample DNA is A/B, the excessiveness of said sample DNA is at least B/A, and wherein A/B is the fractional equivalent of the percentage of target DNA content in the sample DNA.--

--12. A nucleic acid assay process according to claim ~~11~~ 13, wherein the target DNA which is the same as said labeled standard DNA and which is present in said sample DNA is quantitated by evaluating the degree of exchange of the complementary strands between said sample DNA and said labeled